



Resolutions Adopted at Indian Diaspora World Convention 2017

The concluding session of Indian Diaspora World Convention 2017 on March 19, 2017 focused on open discussion, recommendations, future programs and projects, plans of action and adaption of resolutions. It provides a much needed forum in this convention for brief reflections on the past and more in-depth deliberations on the present and future.

The adoption of appropriate resolutions is a crucially important conclusion of the convention and highlights those issues of interest and concern to the global Indian Diaspora. The adopted resolutions would then be skillfully used as a road map or road maps for Indian Diaspora Council to chart pathways and encourage others to participate in a continuing series of progressive actions re: Youth, social issues, education, science and technology, investments, entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and connections for improving social and political progress.

In addition, the adopted resolutions would be promptly brought by Indian Diaspora Council to the attention of respective officials, institutions and agencies in various countries, bringing awareness and seeking redress where appropriate.

Resolution Committee Members:

Dr. Satish Rai (Australia); Dennis Ramdahin (USA); Ashook Ramsaran (USA);
Dr Piyush Agrawal (USA); Deo Gosine (Trinidad & Tobago); Vidur Dindayal (UK);
Selvaraju Sundram (Malaysia); Harbachan Singh (USA); Farook Khan (South Africa);
Prof. Frances Ponaman (France/Guadeloupe).

Session on March 19, 2017: “OPEN DISCUSSIONS. RESOLUTIONS, FUTURE PROGRAMS

Chaired by: Ashook Ramsaran

Co-chair: Dennis Ramdahin

Co-Chair: Deo Gosine

Resolutions Adopted by Indian Diaspora World Convention 2017 on March 19, 2017

- I. Convene the Indian Diaspora World Convention annually in different countries of the Indian Diaspora on rotating basis, following up on the resolutions and actions items adopted at each convention, and beginning with Indian Diaspora World Convention 2018 to be convened in Durban, South Africa in March 2018.
- II. Develop a practical, progressive and visionary road map for more engagement and progress in all segments of society globally: Science & technology, education, medical and professional, agriculture, economics, politics, human rights advocacy, gender equality, infants and youth, environmental sustainability, health and well-being, inter-ethnic relationships, peaceful resolutions of conflicts; and other social improvements.
- III. Strengthening economic engagement among the Indian Diaspora and with India and other entities through regular results oriented forum, meets, trade shows, exhibitions which uplift social progress at all levels.
- IV. Recognize outstanding achievements in the Indian Diaspora in all disciplines to reward, motivate and encourage excellence.
- V. Scholarships for youth achievement to reward, motivate and encourage excellence.

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- VI. Publications in print and on-line on specific topics such as: Women in the Diaspora; Country-Wise History and Census; Notable achievers in specific disciplines.
- VII. Erecting appropriate monuments in each of the Indian Diaspora countries in collaboration with India to recognize Indian arrival days and other significant historic events.
- VIII. Actively engage other ethnic groups for better understanding, education and collaboration.
- IX. Seek formal apology and economic reparations from Britain for Indian indentureship and its painful consequences to those impacted.
- X. Seek access of appropriation of available funding in New Delhi set forth by the British Gov't for development work in Bihar/UP.
- XI. Establishment of a global Girmitya Institute with objectives to educate, inform and advance the interests and concerns of Girmitya while highlighting the accomplishments and achievements.
- XII. Use of technology as an active platform to connect and network among the Indian Diaspora, to inform, advice, seek input and actively engage all groups and ages, as well as global digitalization of indentureship archives.
- XIII. Acceptance of alternate authentic documentation for PIO Card for those PIOs who are unable to obtain original documents due to poor records in countries where Indian laborers migrated from 1834-1920.
- XIV. Advance more coordination of educational exchanges between universities in India and among PIO countries.
- XV. Convey to the Government of India the issue of conversion of old currency to the new currency immediately and relief for PIOs with old currency.
- XVI. Use of petitions by PIOs to seek advance causes, promote issues of interest and seek redress for grievances.
- XVII. Consider establishment of regular forum for parliamentarians of Indian origin to assess, evaluate, update and review matters of interest and concern among PIOs.
- XVIII. Request to India's Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (Overseas Indian Affairs) for a new High Level Commission to make updates to the 2001 High Level Commission census and report.
- XIX. Seek government protection of religious groups.
- XX. Use of sports matches and tournaments among PIOs and India to foster a closer bonds.
- XXI. Adoption and maintenance of historic places to preserve and promote their intrinsic cultural values.
- XXII. Seeks ways for economic engagement among the Indian Diaspora and with India which would also foster closer bonds and enhance social and cultural advancement.

Request to adopt the slate of resolution by: Dr. Chandershekhhar Bhat

Motion approved by: Dr. Gopal Arora

Motion seconded by: Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal

Vote taken among all present: All in favour, no dissent.

✓ Resolutions are adopted by unanimous vote on March 19, 2017